

GUITAR TAB GLOSSARY **

TABLATURE EXPLANATION

READING TABLATURE: Tablature illustrates the six strings of the guitar. Notes and chords are indicated by the placement of fret numbers on a given string(s).

BENDING NOTES

HALF STEP: Play the note and bend string one half step.*

SLIGHT BEND (Microtone): Play the note and bend string slightly to the equivalent of half a fret.

WHOLE STEP: Play the note and bend string one whole step.

PREBEND (Ghost Bend): Bend to the specified note, before the string is picked.

WHOLE STEP AND A HALF: Play the note and bend string a whole step and a half.

PREBEND AND RELEASE: Bend the string, play it, then release to the original note.

TWO STEPS: Play the note and bend string two whole steps.

REVERSE BEND: Play the already-bent string, then immediately drop it down to the fretted note.

BEND AND RELEASE: Play the note and gradually bend to the next pitch, then release to the original note. Only the first note is attacked.

BENDS INVOLVING MORE THAN ONE STRING: Play the note and bend string while playing an additional note (or notes) on another string(s). Upon release, relieve pressure from additional note(s), causing original note to sound alone.

BENDS INVOLVING STATIONARY NOTES: Play notes and bend lower pitch, then hold until

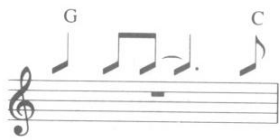
release begins (indicated at the point where line becomes solid).

UNISON BEND: Play both notes and immediately bend the lower note to the same pitch as the higher note.

DOUBLE NOTE BEND: Play both notes and immediately bend both strings simultaneously.

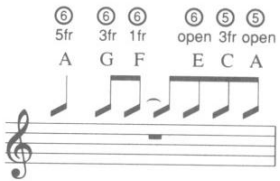
*A half step is the smallest interval in Western music; it is equal to one fret. A whole step equals two frets.

RHYTHM SLASHES



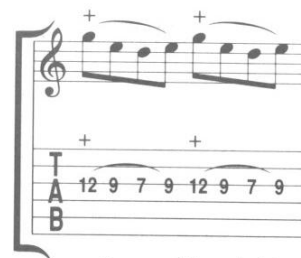
STRUM INDICATIONS:
Strum with indicated rhythm.

The chord voicings are found on the first page of the transcription underneath the song title.



INDICATING SINGLE NOTES USING RHYTHM SLASHES:
Very often

single notes are incorporated into a rhythm part. The note name is indicated above the rhythm slash with a fret number and a string indication.



FRETBOARD TAPPING:
"Tap" onto the note indicated by + with

a finger of the pick hand, then pull off to the following note held by the fret hand.



TAP SLIDE:
Same as fretboard tapping, but the tapped note is slid randomly up the

fretboard, then pulled off to the following note.

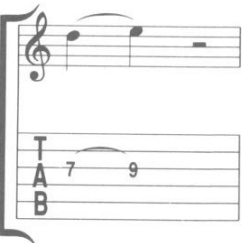


SHORT GLISSANDO: Play note for its full value and slide in specified direction at the last possible moment.



PICK SLIDE:
Slide the edge of the pick in specified direction across the length of the string(s).

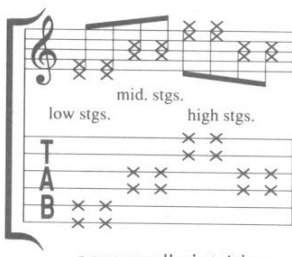
ARTICULATIONS



HAMMER ON:
Play lower note, then "hammer on" to higher note with another finger. Only the first note is attacked.



BEND AND TAP TECHNIQUE:
Play note and bend to specified interval. While holding bend, tap onto note indicated.



MUTED STRINGS:
A percussive sound is made by laying the fret hand

across all six strings while pick hand strikes specified area (low, mid, high strings).



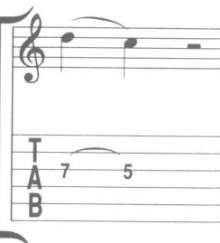
LEFT HAND HAMMER:
Hammer on the first note played on each string with the left hand.



LEGATO SLIDE:
Play note and slide to the following note. (Only first note is attacked).



PALM MUTE:
The note or notes are muted by the palm of the pick hand by lightly touching the string(s) near the bridge.



PULL OFF:
Play higher note, then "pull off" to lower note with another finger. Only the first note is attacked.



LONG GLISSANDO: Play note and slide in specified direction for the full value of the note.



TREMOLO PICKING: The note or notes are picked as fast as possible.

TRILL:
Hammer on and pull off consecutively and as fast as possible between the original note

and the grace note.

ACCENT:
Notes or chords are to be played with added emphasis.

STACCATO (Detached Notes):
Notes or chords are to be played roughly half their actual value and with separation.

DOWNSTROKES AND UPSTROKES:
Notes or chords are to be played with either a downstroke (□) or upstroke (∇) of the pick.

VIBRATO: The pitch of a note is varied by a rapid shaking of the fret hand finger, wrist, and forearm.

HARMONICS

NATURAL HARMONIC:
A finger of the fret hand lightly touches the note or notes indicated in the tab and is played by the pick hand.

ARTIFICIAL HARMONIC:
The first tab number is fretted, then the pick hand produces the harmonic by using a finger to lightly touch the same string at the second tab number (in parenthesis) and is then picked by another finger.

ARTIFICIAL "PINCH" HARMONIC:
A note is fretted as indicated by the tab, then the pick hand produces the harmonic by squeezing the pick firmly while using the tip of the index finger in the pick attack. If parenthesis are found around the fretted note, it does not sound. No parenthesis means both the fretted note and A.H. are heard simultaneously.

TREMOLO BAR

SPECIFIED INTERVAL:
The pitch of a note or chord is lowered to a specified interval and then may or may not

return to the original pitch. The activity of the tremolo bar is graphically represented by peaks and valleys.

UN-SPECIFIED INTERVAL:
The pitch of a note or a chord is lowered to an unspecified interval.